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ABSTRACT

Featuring awareness activities that show how differences are perceived, this book explores how reactions to and beliefs about disabilities influence progress toward an inclusive society. Chapters address: (1) how and why we react to differences; (2) the limitations and challenges of disabilities and perspectives on disability; (3) understanding reactions to disability differences; (4) an approach for better handling situations in which the other person has a specific disability difference; (5) people who look different; (6) people who move differently; (7) people who communicate differently; (8) people who behave differently; (9) people who learn differently; (10) people with nonvisible disabilities; (11) understanding and guiding children's reactions to differences; and (12) expanding individual personal comfort zones and learning from other people's disability experiences. Each chapter contains awareness activities and a list of readings and resources to expand learning. Chapters on specific differences discuss myths, assumptions, and beliefs, reasons for the differences, interventions and supports, and tips for interacting with people with the differences. (Contains approximately 175 references.) (CR)

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